

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF WAYNE COUNTY SERGEANT JOSEPH AYOTTE

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Joseph Ayotte, a dedicated member of the Wayne County Sheriff's Office whose quick response and expert training saved the life of a fellow officer, Rochester Police Sergeant Ralph J. Gagliano.

On November 26, 2013, Sergeant Gagliano was driving home when he suffered a severe headache and subsequently lost control of his vehicle, veering off the road. Arriving on scene, Sergeant Ayotte quickly assessed Sergeant Gagliano, determining the occurrence of a medical emergency. Following transportation to the hospital, the sergeant underwent emergency surgery for a brain aneurysm and awoke 21 days later with no memory of the incident.

Following his retirement on March 2, 2018, a date Sergeant Gagliano may have never seen had it not been for Sergeant Ayotte's imperative and professional conduct, Sergeant Gagliano presented Sergeant Ayotte with the Life Saving Award. Sergeant Ayotte and his actions that day emblemize why we have such tremendous love and respect for our officers and first responders. Perhaps the message on the Life Saving Award says it best, "Your Actions on that day will always be remembered."

Prior to representing Central New York in Congress, I spent nearly my entire professional career serving as a federal prosecutor, working alongside our local law enforcement and first responders to improve the safety and stability of our communities. I have always held the utmost of respect for the difficult jobs of our first responders, and I recognize the challenges they face, which grow greater every day. Yet, they never shirk their duty and always rise to the occasion. I greatly commend them for their dedication to serving our community—a community that includes fellow police officer Ralph J. Gagliano—and I thank them wholeheartedly for their service each and every day.

SOUTHERN COLORADO SOAP BOX
DERBY TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Southern Colorado Soap Box Derby and the individuals—participants, parents and organizers—who have made it an enriching community event to look forward to. On July 8, 1937, boys ages 9–12 entered cars they designed out of soap boxes, wood and

metal for the very first Southern Colorado Soap Box Derby, which took place on West Street in Pueblo, Colorado. At the end of this event, the first place winner was sent to compete in the national championship in Akron, Ohio.

One year later in 1938, the races stopped due to World War II. They began again almost 20 years later in 1962, this time taking place on Constitution Hill with 62 racers ages 9–15. With the help of 28 orphans from Sacred Heart Home and Youth Center and several convicts of the Colorado State Penitentiary, all of the derby cars were successfully built by race time. The revived competition led to some new additions, one being the implementation of a Derby Queen who was chosen from the list of names submitted by the racers. The very first Derby Queen was Sharon Galbraith of Pueblo.

As the race evolved, by 1966 standard wheels and steering assemblies were required to give equal opportunity to all racers. Joplin Hill on Pueblo's east side was determined to be the best hill for gravity and the competition moved once again. Boys from communities including Pueblo, Denver, Boulder, Greeley and Loveland traveled to participate in the derby competition. Attendance steadily increased, ranging from a few hundred to 5,000 spectators.

Unfortunately, three years later, the derby was once more on the brink of shutting down due to a lack of funding. Only one more race was scheduled to be held. This lack of funding threatened derby winner Steve Espinosa's chances of going to the national competition in Ohio. However, thanks to the generosity of the Pueblo Star Journal and radio station KKAM's manager Dwight Shaw, enough funds were donated to send Steve to Ohio.

In 2006 after a long 37 years, the Southern Colorado Soap Box Derby started up again and has been held every year since. In that time, many positive changes have been instituted to be more inclusive, fair and safe: it's now open to both girls and boys ages 7–21; all derby cars have been built from a kit with strict adherence to all nuts and bolts; and contestants must qualify for one of three divisions to race. Since 2006, the highlight of each race has been Officer Randy Belisle of the Colorado State Patrol using his radar gun to clock the speed of each racer as he or she comes down the hill. With speeds ranging from 28 to 31 mph, Officer Belisle then issues each racer a "ticket" for speeding.

Mr. Speaker, the Southern Colorado Soap Box Derby is a fun and important part of the culture and history of Pueblo, Colorado. Throughout the years, this great event has enhanced community engagement and served as a way to teach youth the skills of workmanship and perseverance to complete the task at hand. I look forward to watching the races and I wish all the contestants good luck.

EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF TOMMY ROBINSON

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the following purpose.

I want to share my concern about the arrest and conviction of Tommy Robinson in Great Britain. I am well aware that England does not share our free speech values and does not have the equivalent of a First Amendment. Indeed, the restrictive practices of England led directly to the birth of this great nation and the freedom we enjoy here.

Mr. Robinson, a British activist and journalist, was arrested and jailed for simply filming outside a public courtroom, and was sentenced to 13 months for this "crime." His real crime is not taking pictures; His real crime is his refusal to agree to the government's efforts to cover up crimes by Muslim gangs who are raping British girls, almost with impunity, and with little apparent regard by the British government.

If this act violated a term of probation, it would mean the court system in England is a key part of the problem, covering up for criminals by imposing gag orders as terms of probation.

Dissent is patriotic when the ruling class are illegitimate and oppressive. The ruling class in England appears fearful of the truth. When it bans discussion, and when it criminalizes the truth, any such government can fairly be labeled as both oppressive and tyrannical. I object to the suppression of the truth.

England has a proud history and America is its progeny, but it needs to take back its liberty and freedom. "It's all for nothing if you don't have freedom," Braveheart (1995).

HONORING THE PANA FIRE
DEPARTMENT

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the courageous members of the Pana Fire Department and congratulate them on being awarded the Firefighter Excellence Unit Citation Award at the Illinois Fallen Firefighter Memorial and Firefighting Medal of Honor Awards Ceremony in May.

Chief Rodney Bland and the firefighters from the Pana Fire Department were recognized for their actions in responding to a house fire in April of 2017. After responding to a call and being told that two children were trapped in the house, firefighters made multiple attempts to enter the second floor and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

save the children before a fire engine arrived on the scene and without breathing equipment.

The firefighters continued to attack the blaze, but were forced to leave the building due to deteriorating conditions in the house. Although they were unable to save the children, the team from the Pana Fire Department displayed bravery, heroism, and selflessness throughout their actions that day.

I'm proud to recognize their efforts and the citation they received earlier this month. To the members of the Pana Fire Department, and all the first responders across the country, I thank them for all that they do to protect us and keep us safe.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BHUTANESE REFUGEE COMMUNITY'S ARRIVAL IN ONONDAGA COUNTY

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th anniversary of the Bhutanese refugee community's arrival in Onondaga County.

The first members of our vibrant Bhutanese community arrived in Central New York in 2008, in the wake of intolerance and violence in Bhutan. Today, almost 3,000 Bhutanese people live in Central New York, where they serve as good neighbors, excellent students, and leaders of our community.

Under the leadership of Jay Subedi, who serves as the President of the Bhutanese Community in Syracuse, the Bhutanese Community runs educational programs such as English as a Second Language and citizenship classes. The Bhutanese Community in Syracuse also offers Problem Solving programming in which volunteers assist members of the community in basic daily tasks such as applying for government assistance, making and changing doctor's appointments, and filling out different types of applications.

On March 24th, the Bhutanese community organized a 10th anniversary celebration at Franklin Elementary School. As a testament to the organization's dedication to our community, it has also announced the creation of a blessing box, which will be filled with food every Saturday and used to provide for people of lower incomes.

It is my honor to recognize the contributions of the Bhutanese community to Central New York over the past 10 years. The United States is a country that was founded by immigrants. Our success as a nation is directly tied to our acceptance of all nationalities, ethnicities, and cultures. I join our community in wishing all members of the Bhutanese community "congratulations" on 10 years of improving and enriching our community.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS FIELDER, MAYOR OF LEANDER, TEXAS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I commend the extraordinary work of Chris Fielder, Mayor of Leander, Texas who will retire on June 21 after serving his beloved community for eleven years. Chris' leadership, vision, and commitment to doing what's best for his city have made Leander a great place to live and work.

Chris served the growing city of Leander as a councilmember from 2007 to 2012, and Mayor from 2012 to 18. During his tenure, he unselfishly gave many hours to the good citizens of his community. As a true leader, he has always shown great respect and support for both staff and colleagues as well as a willingness to make tough decisions. He championed property tax rate reductions, obtained voter approval for general bond election propositions, improved local government transparency, oversaw large capital projects, and initiated the development of Veterans Park. No one can doubt that Chris has made a real difference in the lives of residents. His work is a model of sensible governance that puts people first.

While Chris isn't tired of the privilege of serving as Leander's mayor, he knows that everything has its season and that it's time to allow the next generation of leaders to take to the stage. Retirement from office won't give him much idle time. He'll fill his days managing his small business and spending time with his beloved wife MaShon and their two children.

I'm glad civic-minded leaders like Mayor Chris Fielder are working hard to improve their communities. He's led Leander to new heights and positioned his beloved city to progress into a bright future. I salute his work, congratulate him on his retirement, and wish him nothing but the best for the years ahead.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF THOMAS DOWNS

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas Downs' 51 years of service to the Hampton Bays Fire Department. Thomas was accepted into the Hampton Bays Fire Department on June 14, 1967. Throughout his years of service, he has held many positions within the department, quickly rising to the rank of Captain and placed in charge of nearly every new truck as it was placed into service. Serving as Chief of the Department from 1982 until 1983, Mr. Downs has received many of the Department's top awards, including Fireman of the Year in both 1989 and 2013, Old Timer of the Year on two occasions and the Dave Powers Memorial 110% Award in 2006. To this day, Mr. Downs continues to serve his community as one of our top first responders, sharing his wealth of knowledge and fostering the next generation of firefighters, and today I

thank him for his years of selfless service to the community of Hampton Bays and look forward to many more years to come.

HONORING WILLIAM HOLDEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of this year's marking of the 100th anniversary of movie icon William Holden's birth.

William Holden was born William Franklin Beedle, Jr., in O'Fallon, Illinois in 1918. He and his family had a remarkable American story, with roots that could be traced all the way back to Mary Ball, mother of George Washington.

William was one of the most popular actors in America in the 1950s and 1960s, starring in Sunset Boulevard, Sabrina, The Wild Bunch, The Bridge on the River Kwai, and 1953's Stalag 17, a movie for which he won the Academy Award for Best Actor. He also won a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor for his performance in the 1973 television film The Blue Knight.

William Holden is also recognized for his leadership and service to his country in the United States Air Force during World War II. For these reasons, I join many Illinoisans in honoring William Holden, one of O'Fallon, Illinois' most famous sons.

HONORING THE CAREER OF STEPHEN CVENGROS

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the career of Stephen Cvengros. Mr. Cvengros recently retired as the Vice President of Content for Advance Media New York, the accredited publisher of The Post-Standard, Syracuse.com, and NYup.com. Mr. Cvengros retired with numerous accolades in the news business and leaves behind a lasting legacy.

Mr. Cvengros has worked for several news and media outlets throughout his career, which he began in print media. He was an editor for the Chicago Tribune, The Detroit News, and Newsday. Later, he became an executive producer for MSN News before starting his tenure at Advance Media New York.

In Mr. Cvengros' time at Advance Media New York, he has helped The Post-Standard develop its website and build a strong online following. As a result, Syracuse.com has frequently ranked in the top of local news sites in the country. Additionally, The Post-Standard has cemented its position as one of the nation's top five best read newspapers.

Throughout his career, Mr. Cvengros has accumulated numerous awards, including Gold Awards from the National Press Photographers Association and glowing recognition from the Michigan Press Association. His decorated career reflects his hard work and passion for journalism.

I commend Stephen Cvengros for his dedication to journalistic integrity and for efforts to